

Claim Amendments

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-13 (canceled)

Claim 14 (currently amended) A method of identifying one or more nucleic acids comprising:

- a) obtaining a probe for each nucleic acid to be identified;
- b) ~~labeling each probe with~~ attaching at least one carbon nanotube to each probe;
- c) hybridizing the probes to the nucleic acids;
- d) exciting the nanotubes; and
- e) detecting the emission spectra of the excited nanotubes.

Claim 15 (original) The method of claim 14, wherein the nanotubes are excited with an ultraviolet (UV) laser or an electron beam.

Claim 16 (original) The method of claim 15, further comprising identifying one or more peaks in the optical emission spectrum of each nanotube.

Claim 17 (original) The method of claim 16, further comprising determining the wavelength of each peak.

Claim 18 (previously presented) The method of claim 14, wherein at least one probe is attached to at least two nanotubes.

Claim 19 (canceled)

Claim 20 (canceled)

Claim 31 (previously presented) The method of claim 14, wherein the nanotubes are single wall carbon nanotubes.

Claim 32 (previously presented) The method of claim 14, wherein nanotubes attached to different probes exhibit distinguishable emission spectra.

Claim 33 (previously presented) The method of claim 14, wherein the probes are oligonucleotides, chemically modified oligonucleotides, oligonucleotide analogs or peptide nucleic acids.

Claim 34 (previously presented) The method of claim 33, wherein the probes comprise all possible nucleotide sequences for a probe of defined length.

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